

Senate Bill 423

By: Senators Grant of the 25th, Harp of the 29th, Goggans of the 7th, Hooks of the 14th, Adelman of the 42nd and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

To amend Article 1 of Chapter 3 of Title 37 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general provisions related to examination and treatment for mental illness, so as to prohibit the use of prior authorization or other restrictions on certain medications prescribed for patients receiving treatment for certain mental illnesses under a Medicaid fee for service program; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

Article 1 of Chapter 3 of Title 37 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general provisions related to examination and treatment for mental illness, is amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

"37-3-9.

No requirement for prior authorization or other restrictions shall be imposed on atypical antipsychotic medications or conventional antipsychotic medications prescribed for patients enrolled in a Medicaid fee for service program who are receiving treatment for mental illnesses, including but not limited to schizophrenia and bipolar disorder. Substitution of an atypical antipsychotic medication or conventional antipsychotic medication may not occur without the express authorization of the prescribing practitioner."

SECTION 2.

This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law without such approval.

SECTION 3.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.